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NEW FOREST RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

on

Vital Statistics and Sanitary Conditions

of the

NEW FOREST RURAL DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1955.

Submitted to the Rural District Council

by

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Medical Officer of Health

to the

NEW FOREST RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

69418



NEW FOREST RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1955

To the Chairman and Members of the New Forest Rural District Council:-

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on the Health, Social and Sanitary conditions of your District during the year 1955.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA:-

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Area (in acres) .....  | 94,957.      |
| Estimated mid-year Resident population .....   | 46,840.      |
| Estimated number of inhabited houses .....   | 14,118.      |
| Rateable Value 1st April, 1956 .....   | £814,167.    |
| Sum represented by a penny rate (for financial<br>year ended 31st March, 1956) ..... | £1,630.4.1d. |

The population, as estimated by the Registrar General, shows an increase of 880 over 1954.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISTRICT.

The District covers an area of 94,957 acres, approximately 148 square miles, comprising 17 parishes and has a progressively rising population, which has now reached 46,840 - an increase of 20% since the end of 1945.

It is bounded on the East by the River Test and the Southampton Water, on the South by the Solent and the Lymington Borough, on the West by the Ringwood and Fordingbridge Rural District Council and on the North by the Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District Council. The unique and predominating feature of the District is, of course, the ancient Crown Forest, a region of exceptional natural beauty and a home of ancient rights and privileges. The area within the perambulation of the Forest is some 92,000 acres, of which the larger portion lies within the boundaries of the Rural District. The principal industries in the Forest area are, naturally, forestry and agriculture, whilst the areas outside the perambulation of the Forest, the waterside parts of the parishes of Eling, Marchwood, Dibden and Fawley, are mainly industrial, including timber works, small shipbuilding yards, tar distilleries, the well-known Esso Oil Refinery, and other light industries.



In these parishes industrial development is progressively increasing and they contain the larger centres of population, equivalent to 62% of the total population of the District.

The geological formation of the District is mainly made up of plateau gravel and sandy marly clays.

Rainfall, Sun hours, and Temperatures (as recorded at Southampton).

| Month.      | Rain. | Sun.   | Temperatures. |          |
|-------------|-------|--------|---------------|----------|
|             |       |        | Maximum.      | Minimum. |
| January. ✕  | 2.76  | 31.74  | 53            | 23       |
| February. ✕ | 1.575 | 98.98  | 56.5          | 22       |
| March. ✕    | 1.215 | 175.63 | 61            | 23       |
| April.      | .425  | 196.05 | 66            | 31.5     |
| May.        | 4.135 | 235.9  | 70            | 34       |
| June.       | 2.70  | 190.51 | 74            | 38       |
| July.       | 2.025 | 291.2  | 87            | 49       |
| August.     | 1.05  | 241.23 | 86.5          | 43       |
| September.  | 1.59  | 172.79 | 75            | 38       |
| October.    | 4.25  | 132.7  | 68            | 27       |
| November.   | 2.805 | 77.23  | 62            | 26       |
| December.   | 4.225 | 27.95  | 57            | 27       |

Total Rainfall = 28.755 inches.

✕ Also Snow.

Fine days considerably outnumbered wet ones in 1955. There were 231 fine and 134 wet days - a big improvement on 1954.

EXTRACTS OF VITAL STATISTICS.

| <u>Live Births:</u>                                 | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> | <u>Total.</u> |
|---|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Legitimate .....                                    | 397          | 344            | 741           |
| Illegitimate .....                                  | <u>13</u>    | <u>15</u>      | <u>28</u>     |
|   | <u>410</u>   | <u>359</u>     | <u>769</u>    |
| <u>Birth Rate:</u>                                  |              | <u>1955.</u>   | <u>1954.</u>  |
| Per 1,000 of the estimated resident population....  |              | 16.4           | 17.7          |
| Birth Rate for England and Wales .....              |              | 15.0           | 15.2          |
| After application of Comparability Factor (1.08) .. |              | 17.7           | 19.1          |

| <u>Still Births:</u> | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> | <u>Total.</u> |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Legitimate .....     | 13           | 11             | 24            |
| Illegitimate .....   | <u>-</u>     | <u>1</u>       | <u>1</u>      |
|                      | <u>13</u>    | <u>12</u>      | <u>25</u>     |

| <u>Deaths:</u>  | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> | <u>Total.</u> |
|---|--------------|----------------|---------------|
|   | 269          | 205            | 474           |
| Death Rate per 1,000 estimated                        |              | <u>1955.</u>   | <u>1954.</u>  |
| resident population .....                             |              | 10.1           | 9.55          |
| Death Rate for England and Wales .....                |              | 11.7           | 11.3          |
| After application of Comparability Factor (.98) ..... |              | 9.9            | 9.3           |

| <u>Infant Mortality:</u>                      | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> | <u>Total.</u> |
|---|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| <u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:</u> |              |                |               |
| Legitimate .....                              | 10           | 4              | 14            |
| Illegitimate .....                            | <u>-</u>     | <u>-</u>       | <u>-</u>      |
|   | <u>10</u>    | <u>4</u>       | <u>14</u>     |

|  |  |              |              |
|--|--|--------------|--------------|
| <u>Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:</u>        |  | <u>1955.</u> | <u>1954.</u> |
| All Infants per 1,000 live births .....                  |  | 18.2         | 13.4         |
| Rate for England and Wales .....                         |  | 24.9         | 25.5         |
| Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate births .....     |  | 18.8         | 14.9         |
| Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate births ..... |  | -            | -            |

| <u>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:</u> | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> | <u>Total.</u> |
|--|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Legitimate .....                               | 8            | 3              | 11            |
| Illegitimate .....                             | <u>-</u>     | <u>-</u>       | <u>-</u>      |
|  | <u>8</u>     | <u>3</u>       | <u>11</u>     |
| Rate per 1,000 related live births .....       |              | 14.3           |               |
| Rate for England and Wales .....               |              | 17.3           |               |

#### Increase of Population:

The estimated population as given by the Registrar General shows an increase of 880. The births registered exceeded the deaths by 295 - representing, therefore, an immigrant increase of 585. The corresponding increase for the preceding year was 377.

| <u>The Chief Causes of Death in order of frequency were:</u> |   | <u>1955.</u> | <u>1954.</u> |
|--|---|--------------|--------------|
| (a)  | Disease of the heart and circulatory system .....   | 188-41%      | 210-47%      |
| (b)  | Cancer of all sites .....                           | 84-18%       | 70-15%       |
| (c)  | Vascular Lesions of Nervous System .....            | 66-14%       | 39-9%        |
| (d)  | Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) ..... | 31-6%        | 27-6%        |
| (e)  | Tuberculosis (all forms) .....                      | 4-.8%        | 4-.78%       |

SUMMARY OF COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS.

| Year. | Population. | New Forest R.D.C. |       |       | England & Wales. |      |      |
|-------|-------------|-------------------|-------|-------|------------------|------|------|
|       |             | I.M.R.            | B.R.  | D.R.  | I.M.R.           | B.R. | D.R. |
| 1950  | 44,200      | 21.11             | 15.99 | 10.92 | 30.0             | 15.8 | 11.6 |
| 1951  | 44,900      | 25.86             | 18.08 | 10.91 | 29.6             | 15.5 | 12.5 |
| 1952  | 45,090      | 29.83             | 17.09 | 9.39  | 27.6             | 15.3 | 11.3 |
| 1953  | 45,480      | 40.2              | 17.47 | 10.92 | 26.8             | 15.5 | 11.4 |
| 1954  | 45,960      | 13.4              | 17.74 | 9.55  | 25.5             | 15.2 | 11.3 |
| 1955  | 46,840      | 18.2              | 16.4  | 10.1  | 24.9             | 15.0 | 11.7 |

IMR = Infant Mortality Rate expressed as per 1,000 live births.

BR = Birth Rate expressed as per 1,000 resident population.

DR = Death Rate expressed as per 1,000 resident population.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Authority:

- 1 Medical Officer of Health (part time).
- 1 Senior Sanitary Inspector.
- 1 Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector.
- 3 Additional Sanitary Inspectors.

A moiety of the salaries of all Officers is received under the Public Health Acts and the Sanitary Inspectors devote the whole of their time to their duties.

Laboratory Facilities:

For chemical examinations at the Southampton Corporation Laboratory and bacteriological examinations at the Public Health Laboratories Winchester and Southampton.

A fee is charged by the Southampton Corporation. The Public Health Laboratories Service is directed by the Medical Research Council, for the Ministry of Health, and no fees are charged.



Ambulance Facilities:

The ambulances operating in the area are controlled from the County Council's main station at "Hillcroft", New Street, Lymington, telephone number Lymington 2331, and all requests for transport should be made to the Officer in charge of that Station.

The work in the area is shared between the main Station at Lymington and the sub-stations at Totton and Fawley, with assistance from the adjoining sub-stations at Ringwood, Christchurch, New Milton and Romsey. All types of cases are conveyed, with the exception of smallpox cases, for which special arrangements are made.

THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Home Nursing and Domiciliary Midwifery:

Details of the General Nurses and Midwives serving in the District who are able to give attention to cases at home on a Medical Certificate are:-

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| BOLDRE DISTRICT .....           | Miss M. H. Mitchell, Knapton Cottage, Pilley. Tel. Lymington 564.  |
| BROCKENHURST DISTRICT .....     | Miss F.D. Shiers, Nurse's Cottage, Meerut Rd. Brockenhurst. Tel. 2380.   |
| DIBDEN, MARCHWOOD & HYPHE ..... | Miss R. Wess, Three Firs, Atheling Road, Hythe. Tel. Hythe 2230.<br>Miss P. Morgans, 5 Langdown Road, Hythe. Tel Hythe 2215.   |
| EAST BOLDRE & BEAULIEU .....    | Miss K. Mann, Memorial Cottage, Beaulieu. Tel. Beaulieu 212.   |
| FAWLEY DISTRICT .....           | Mrs. D. Clarebout, 29 Heather Road, Fawley. Tel. Fawley 312.   |
| LYNDHURST DISTRICT .....        | Miss D. Emery, 1 Church Cottages, Emery Down. Tel. Lyndhurst 250.  |
| NETLEY MARSH DISTRICT .....     | Miss H.M. Davies, 1 Regis Cottage, Bartley. Tel. Cadnam 3220.  |
| BRAMSHAW DISTRICT .....         | Miss J. Stubbs, Dell Cottage, Vicarage Lane, Cadnam. Tel. Cadnam 3247.   |
| SWAY DISTRICT .....             | Mrs. M.F. Lipscombe, The Bungalow, Station Road, Sway. Tel. Sway 314.  |
| TOTTON DISTRICT .....           | <u>District Nurse/Midwife</u> - Miss E. Strange, 28 Shelley Road, Totton. Tel. Totton 2191.<br><u>District Nurse/Midwife</u> - Mrs. A. Billingsley, 22 Players Crescent, Totton. Tel. 3256.<br><u>General Nurse</u> - Mrs. M.M. Coombes, 36 Shakespeare Drive, Totton. Tel. Totton 3000. |





SWAY, Women's Institute Hall ..... 2nd Tuesdays.

TESTWOOD, Thistle Hall, St. Winifred's

Church, Salisbury Road, Totton ..... Every Monday. (Doctor attends on 4th Monday only).

TOTTON, Health Clinic, Rumbridge Street .... Fridays at 2 p.m. (and at 10 a.m. 1st Friday only).

All Centres commence at 2p.m. except where otherwise stated.

(c) Day Nurseries: Nil.

SCHOOL CLINICS.

(i) Dental Clinics: (For School and pre-School children and expectant and nursing mothers).

Held at various Schools and Centres as required. Requests for special appointments should be sent to the Principal School Medical Officer.

(ii) Minor Ailments: (For School and pre-School children).

TOTTON ..... Health Clinic, Rumbridge Street. 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 9.30 a.m. (except during School Summer Holidays).

LYMINGTON..... Health Clinic, New Street. Every Tuesday at 9.30 a.m. (Children attend these clinics without appointments).

(iii) Ophthalmic: (For School and pre-School children).

Held at Christchurch, Totton and Lymington. Attendance only by appointment from the Principal School Medical Officer.

(iv) Orthopaedic Clinics:

SOUTHAMPTON - (Royal South Hants Hospital, Fanshawe Street).

Surgeon's and Remedial Clinic by appointment. Cases from the New Forest Rural District are also dealt with at Lymington Surgeon's and Remedial Clinic, held at the County Council Health Centre, Hillcroft, New Street, Lymington.

(v) Tuberculosis Clinics:

Totton Chest Clinic, Bullar Street, Southampton.

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Monday, 2pm. - 4.30pm. ....                  | New cases.    |
| Thursday, 9.0 am. ....                       | Old cases.    |
| Thursday, 2.0 pm. ....                       | A.P. Refills. |
| Tuesday & Thursday, 4.30 pm. - 6.30 pm. .... | X-rays.       |

Christchurch Health Centre, Millhams Street.

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Monday, 10 am., 2 pm. .... | Previous patients.                            |
| Wednesday, 2 pm. ....      | New patients.                                 |
| Wednesday, 9.30 am. ....   | A.P. Refills at the Douglas House Sanatorium. |

(vi) Maternity Accommodation:

Maternity accommodation is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board, and beds are provided at:-

Hythe Cottage Hospital, Hythe.

Fenwick Cottage Hospital, Lyndhurst.

Hillrise Maternity Home, Lyndhurst.

Applications for the admission of normal cases for social reasons are made to the County Medical Officer. Arrangements for the admission of abnormal cases and those requiring institutional confinement on account of medical conditions are made by the general practitioner obstetrician direct with the Institution concerned.

Hospitals:

The Hospitals in the District are administered by the South Western Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, through Hospital Management Committees. The Hospitals are:-

Hythe Cottage Hospital, Hythe.

Ashurst Hospital, Ashurst.

Fenwick Cottage Hospital, Lyndhurst.

Infectious disease cases are admitted to the Southampton Chest Hospital.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water:

89.6% of the houses in the District, an increase of 2% over 1954, have a Mains supply of water in the house.

The District is supplied with water by two Statutory Undertakings, the Southampton Corporation, and the West Hampshire Water Company, the District Council (water being purchased in bulk from the two statutory Undertakings) and two private Estates. The Waterworks of both Undertakings are situated outside the District. The water supplied by the Southampton Corporation is obtained from deep wells in the chalk at

Timsbury, Twyford and Otterbourne, the water being softened by means of the "Lime Process" and sterilised by "Chloramination".

The water supplied by the West Hampshire Water Company comes from the River Avon at Christchurch, where it is treated by rapid and slow sand filtration, followed by "chloramination".

In parts of the District outside the limits of supply of the Statutory Undertakings, i.e., Emery Down and the Parishes of Bramshaw and Minstead, the District Council have provided mains, water being purchased in bulk from the beforementioned Undertakings.

In the Exbury Village, which lies outside the limits of supply of both Undertakings, a piped supply in the houses is provided by the Exbury Estate. The source of supply is from a deep well some 300ft. deep, the water being pumped to a water tower, thence by gravitation to the houses and Exbury School.

The Beaulieu Village also has a piped supply in the houses provided by the Beaulieu Estate, and in addition, a supply is available from the mains of the West Hampshire Water Company. The Estate supply is gravitational, from an ancient spring known as the "Monks' Well" situated at Hill Top, Beaulieu.

No waters in the District were found to have any plumbo solvent action and there were no known cases of plumbism. All the supplies have been constant throughout the year.

The following table shows the state of water supplies in the various Parishes:-



PARTICULARS OF THE NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES AND THE  
NUMBER SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC WATER MAINS.

| Parish.       | No. of dwelling houses. | No. of dwelling houses connected to Mains. | Source of Supply.   |
|---------------|-------------------------|--|---|
| Lyndhurst.    | 830                     | 826  | 768 to Southampton Corporation Mains & 58 to N.F.R.D.C. Mains.        |
| Brockenhurst. | 791                     | 768  | Southampton Corporation Mains.  |
| Copythorne.   | 816                     | 640  | 625 Southampton Corporation Mains and 15 N.F.R.D.C. Mains.            |
| Sway.         | 738                     | 663  | West Hampshire Water Company.   |
| Fawley.       | 1,616                   | 1,489                                      | Southampton Corporation Mains.  |
| East Boldre.  | 326                     | 205  | West Hampshire Water Company.   |
| Dibden.       | 1,463                   | 1,284                                      | Southampton Corporation Mains.  |
| Marchwood.    | 339                     | 318  | Southampton Corporation Mains.  |
| Netley Marsh. | 644                     | 461  | Southampton Corporation Mains.  |
| Eling.        | 4,804                   | 4,774                                      | Southampton Corporation Mains.  |
| Denny Lodge.  | 156                     | 30   | Southampton Corporation Mains.  |
| Boldre.       | 741                     | 615  | West Hampshire Water Company.   |
| Minstead.     | 330                     | 224 *                                      | New Forest R.D.C. Mains.  |
| Rhinefield.   | 49                      | 33   | West Hampshire Water Company.   |
| Beaulieu.     | 372                     | 248 +                                      | Partly West Hampshire Water Co. & partly Beaulieu Estate Supply.      |
| Exbury.       | 102                     | 84 ø                                       | Partly Southampton Corporation Mains and partly Exbury Estate Supply. |
| TOTALS.       | 14,118                  | 12,662                                     |   |

\* Includes 21 huts at Stoney Cross.

+ Includes 99 connected to Beaulieu Estate Mains.

ø Includes 17 connected to Southampton Corporation Mains.

(a) Estimated number of population provided with Main Supply ..... 42,037.

(b) Estimated percentage number of properties provided with Mains Supply .... 89.6%.

EXTENSION OF MAINS AND OTHER WORKS INCIDENTAL TO WATER SUPPLIES.

Extension of Mains:

(i) Southampton Corporation:

| Parish.       | Length of Mains<br>laid in<br>lineal yards. | Diameter<br>of Mains<br>(inches). |
|---------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Eling.        | 1,612                                       | 4" and 3"                         |
| Netley Marsh. | 15  | 3"                                |
| Dibden.       | 1,602                                       | 4" and 3"                         |
| Fawley.       | 1,170                                       | 4" and 3"                         |
| Copythorne.   | 10  | 4"                                |
| Lyndhurst.    | 1,423                                       | 8"                                |
| Brockenhurst. | 1,400                                       | 8"                                |
| TOTAL.        | 7,232                                       |                                   |

(ii) West Hampshire Water Company:

207 Lineal yards of mains were laid in the Parish of Boldre.

(iii) New Forest Rural District Council:

There were no extensions.

WATER ANALYSES.

(i) Southampton Corporation:

(a) Bacteriological Examination:

Water supplied is subject to regular bacteriological examination, samples being sent to the Ministry of Health Bacteriologist, Winchester, and the Borough Analyst, Southampton. The following Table shows the results of the examinations during the year 1955:-

| Origin of Samples. | Total number<br>of samples<br>during<br>year. | Number of samples showing the probable no. of B.coli present in 100 ml. |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---|---|--------------------|---------------------|
|                    |   | None<br>present.  | 1 to 2<br>present. | 3 to 10<br>present. |
| Timsbury Wells.    | 77  | 77  | -                  | -                   |
| Twyford Wells.     | 77  | 77  | -                  | -                   |
| Otterbourne.       | 77  | 77  | -                  | -                   |
| TOTAL.             | 231   | 231   | -                  | -                   |



(b) Chemical Analyses:

The following table shows the results of a typical chemical analysis of Treated Water from the sources of supply distributed in the New Forest Rural District:-

Samples taken in August 1955 - Results in parts per million.

| General Chemical Examination.                 | Timsbury Wells. | Twyford Wells. | Otterbourne Wells. |
|---|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Total Solids .....                            | 299.6           | 247.6          | 265.6              |
| Free Carbon Dioxide, as CO <sub>2</sub> ..... | 7.0             | 5.0            | 11.0               |
| Ammoniacal Nitrogen, as N .....               | ≠ 0.030         | ≠ 0.04         | ≠ 0.002            |
| Albuminoid Nitrogen as N .....                | 0.010           | 0.002          | 0.003              |
| Nitrous Nitrogen, as N .....                  | Absent          | 0.001          | Absent             |
| Nitric Nitrogen, as N .....                   | 3.0             | 5.0            | 5.0                |
| Hardness, as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (Wanklyn's).   |                 |                |                    |
| Temporary .....                               | 129             | 103            | 109                |
| Permanent .....                               | 40              | 46             | 41                 |
| Permanganate Figure as O (4hrs. 80°F) ..      | 0.05            | 0.125          | 0.10               |
| Alkalinity, as CaCO <sub>3</sub> .....        | 185             | 150            | 160                |
| Free Chlorine .....                           | ≠ 0.35          | ≠ 0.30         | ≠ 0.30             |
| Reaction, pH .....                            | (7.2)           | (7.8)          | (7.4)              |
| <u>MINERAL ANALYSIS.</u>                      |                 |                |                    |
| Calcium, as Ca .....                          | 95.1            | 78.0           | 93.6               |
| Magnesium, as Mg. ....                        | 4.3             | 1.1            | 2.4                |
| Carbonate, as CO <sub>3</sub> .....           | 111.0           | 90.0           | 96.0               |
| Chloride, as Cl. ....                         | 18.0            | 14.0           | 18.0               |
| Sulphate, as SO <sub>4</sub> .....            | 12.8            | 7.1            | 10.0               |
| Nitrate, as NO <sub>3</sub> .....             | 13.3            | 22.2           | 22.2               |
| Iron .....                                    | Absent          | Absent         | Absent             |
| Lead .....                                    | Absent          | Absent         | Absent             |
| Zinc .....                                    | Absent          | Absent         | Absent             |
| Copper .....                                  | Absent          | Absent         | Absent             |
| Phosphates .....                              | Trace           | Absent         | Absent             |

≠ These figures were obtained from Samples which had already been treated by the addition of Chloramine.



(ii) West Hampshire Water Company:

The water supplied from the Christchurch Works is examined bacteriologically daily for presumptive B. Coli and during the year all samples were found to be negative. In addition, complete chemical analysis and bacteriological examinations are made twice weekly. All conformed with Classification 1 for Statutory Water Undertakings as prescribed by the Ministry of Health.

(iii) Other Supplies:

78 Samples were taken by the Department, and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Southampton for bacteriological examination. The following Table gives details of the results:-

| Source.                        | Number of samples taken. | Number satis- factory. | Number un- satis- factory. |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Private Estate piped supplies. | 36                       | 36                     | -                          |
| Individual well supplies.      | 33                       | 16                     | 17                         |
| Main supplies.                 | 6                        | 6                      | -                          |
| Other supplies.                | 3                        | 3                      | -                          |

Informal action under the Public Health Act 1936 and Water Act 1945, and voluntarily by owners, resulted in 16 dwelling houses having well supplies being provided with a Main supply.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

During the year the Second Stage section of the Dibden Sewerage Scheme was completed and put into operation, and First Stage section Fawley commenced. The built up parts of the Parish of Dibden, i.e., Hythe and Dibden Purlieu, now have Main sewerage facilities, and at the end of the year 428 properties had been connected, and the cesspits abolished.

In developing land for private building, the following sewer extensions have been made:-

Parish of Eling:

|                             |                |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Hamton Estate .....         | 1,947ft. x 6". |
| Downs Park Estate .....     | 775ft. x 6".   |
| Hammonds Green Estate ..... | 790ft. x 9".   |
| Hammonds Green Estate ..... | 435ft. x 6".   |
| Dene Farm, Ashurst .....    | 1,310ft. x 6". |

Parish of Dibden:

Hollybank Estate ..... 2,150ft. x 6".

Hollybank Estate ..... 1,100ft. x 9".

Plans for the modernisation of the disposal works at Brockenhurst and the enlargement of the Eling Works were still in the preparatory stage.

Connections to Sewers:

A total of 428 houses have been connected to the sewers during the year as follows:-

| Parish.       | Number of houses connected. |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Brockenhurst. | 6                           |
| Lyndhurst.    | 11                          |
| Eling.        | 204                         |
| Dibden.       | 207                         |
| TOTAL.        | 428                         |

Of this total, 79 connections were as a result of formal and informal action under the Public Health Act, 1936.

Pail Closets:

The weekly emptying of pail closets at South Weirs, Brockenhurst, continues.

Financial Assistance - Connection to Sewers:

To facilitate the connection of house drains to the Sewers, the Council's Scheme of providing financial assistance by way of a loan to owners continues. 29 Applications were approved during the year, involving a sum of £2,885.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

There has been no change in the fortnightly collection throughout the whole of the area of domestic refuse, and weekly collection of trade refuse, with additional collections from beaches and litter baskets as and when required.



Inspite of an increased wage award in May, raising the wages by 10/6d. a week, the recruitment and retention of labour, aggravated by absence through sickness and absenteeism, involving a loss of 3,167 man-hours, equivalent to the work of 1.5 men for the year, and the annual holidays, has again presented a difficult problem, and the labour force has been 20% below establishment throughout the year.

The under-manning inevitably gave rise to intermittent delays in the Schedule of Collection and to unsatisfactory disposal conditions.

In a district where more congenial and better paid jobs are available, it is understandable that the difficulty of attracting men to work of this nature remains problematical. In November, the Council referred the matter to the Joint Industrial Council. In their reply, it was said that the problem is common to practically all local authorities, and suggested that, generally speaking, the payment of a definite excess rate of pay does not prove to be necessary to solve the problem.

In most cases, it is said, it is found possible to devise some bonus scheme or arrange regular overtime which effectively increases the pay packet, and this overcomes the difficulty.

It is not practicable, with a fluctuating complement, to arrange regular overtime and notwithstanding the principles, economic and otherwise, involved in overtime work, the schedule of collection could only be maintained by working overtime as and when required. In so far as a bonus scheme is suggested, a salvage bonus scheme has been in operation for a number of years. The only remaining incentive which could be introduced would be to increase the rate of salvage bonus. The Council decided, therefore, to substantially increase the percentage basis as from the 1st November, making it possible to increase the amount in the pay packet by 10/- a week, as compared with the 3/- a week received in 1954. It now remains to be seen if the additional incentive will be effective in the face of the progressive industrial development taking place in the district.

During the year additional garage accommodation was provided and further improvements carried out at the Depot, including the provision of a changing and locker room. Other improvements to washing and other facilities are underway. Protective clothing continues to be issued annually.



Vehicles:

No vehicles have been added or replaced, remaining the same as the previous year, the following vehicles being employed:-

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Dennis, 10 cubic yard .....               | 7. |
| Shelvoke & Drewry, 16/18 cubic yard ..... | 1. |
| Austin 10 van .....                       | 1. |

Precipitated by the shortage of labour, and resultant unsatisfactory disposal condition, the use of mechanical means was considered at the end of the year. The Council agreed to purchase a Bristol "25" Angle-dozer and allied equipment, and an order was placed in December. It is estimated that resort to mechanisation will reduce the annual cost for disposal by approximately £600 - or 30%.

Disposal:

All refuse continues to be disposed of by the Controlled Tipping method on four sites at Marchwood, Stoney Cross, Fawley and Sway. As previously mentioned, conditions have been unsatisfactory by reason of labour shortage. The introduction of mechanisation will overcome this problem.

Operational Statistics:

|     |   |                  |
|-----|---|------------------|
| (1) | Area .....  | 94,957 acres.    |
| (2) | Population as at 30th June 1955 .....                       | 46,840.          |
| (3) | Total refuse collected (based upon<br>test weighings) ..... | 11,938 tons.     |
| (4) | Weight (cwts) per 1,000 population<br>per day .....         | 14 cwts.         |
| (5) | Number of premises from which refuse<br>is collected .....  | 14,118 premises. |
| (6) | 98 Trade Refuse Agreements .....                            | 98 premises.     |
| (7) | Total Mileage .....   | 74,465 miles.    |
| (8) | Petrol Consumption .....                                    | 9,808 gallons.   |

COST STATEMENT

| Particulars.                                      | Collection and Disposal<br>£. | Percentage of total gross expenditure<br>%. |
|---|-------------------------------|---|
| <u>GROSS EXPENDITURE:</u>                         |                               |   |
| (1) Labour .....                                  | 12,077.                       | 71.23                                       |
| (2) Transport .....                               | 4,610.                        | 27.19                                       |
| (3) Plant, equipment, land and buildings .....    | 219.                          | 1.29  |
| (4) Other items .....                             | 50.                           | 0.29  |
| Total Gross Expenditure .....                     | 16,955.                       | 100   |
| Gross Income .....                                | 1,716.                        | -   |
| Nett Cost .....                                   | 15,239.                       | -   |
| <u>UNIT COSTS:</u>                                | s. d.                         | £.  |
| (i) Gross cost per ton labour and transport ..... | 27. 9.                        |   |
| (ii) Nett cost (all expenditure) per ton .....    | 25. 6.                        |   |
| (iii) Nett cost per 1,000 population.             | -                             | 325.  |
| (iv) Nett cost per 1,000 premises ..              | -                             | 1,079.                                      |

Salvage and Trade Refuse:

The number of trade refuse agreements in force is 98, and the revenue derived is £392. The following Table shows the Scale of Charges in force:-

| Number of Bins.                      | Approx. cost per bin. | Annual Charge. |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1 Bin .....                          | 9d.                   | £2. 2. 0d.     |
| 2 Bins .....                         | 8d.                   | £3.13. 6d.     |
| 3 Bins .....                         | 8d.                   | £5. 5. 0d.     |
| 4 Bins .....                         | 8d.                   | £7. 7. 0d.     |
| 5 Bins .....                         | 8d.                   | £9. 9. 0d.     |
| Over 5 & not more than 10 .....      |                       | £10.10. 0d.    |
| Over 10 & not more than 15 .....     |                       | £12.12. 0d.    |
| Over 15 & not more than 20 .....     |                       | £15.15. 0d.    |
| More than 20 - by special Agreement. |                       |                |

The weight of materials salvaged and disposed of amounted to 281 tons, an increase of 61 tons compared with 220 tons for the previous year.

| Salvage.           | Tons | Cwts | £.     | s.  | d.  |
|--------------------|------|------|--------|-----|-----|
| Mixed paper.       | 205  | 1    | 992.   | 17. | 10. |
| Clean paper.       | 34   | 5    | 205.   | 10. | 0.  |
| Rags.              | 33   | 5    | 120.   | 18. | 9.  |
| Scrap Iron.        | 8    | 17   | 40.    | 9.  | 3.  |
| 12-volt batteries. |      |      | 3.     | 0.  | 0.  |
| TOTALS.            | 281  | 8    | 1,292. | 15. | 10. |

CESSPOOL CLEANSING.

The Council's contract with the Cleansing Services (Southern Counties) Limited expired on the 31st December 1954. As far as is known, this firm is the only one operating this particular service in this area and a new 5-year contract was agreed.

The terms are substantially the same as before, but owing to the wage increases awarded to Drivers, Drivers' Mates and Fitters, etc., by the Road Haulage Wages Council, the Cleansing firm intimated that they were forced to increase their charge. It was finally agreed that an extra 10d. per pit, irrespective of capacity, be paid. The negotiated terms are now as follows:-

- (1) 26/2d. for a cesspool not exceeding 1 load of 1,000 gallons.
- (2) 31/2d. for a cesspool exceeding 1 load of 1,000 gallons.
- (3) Business and industrial premises with a cesspool capacity exceeding 2,000 gallons:-

31/2d. for the first 2,000 gallons, and

24/7d. for each additional 1,000 gallons.

The service allows for the cleansing of one cesspool for each property at intervals of approximately, but not less than, six months, except where a serious nuisance is proved, but in any case, no cesspool under the scheme to be cleansed more frequently than twice in any twelve months. In cases where the drainage from two or more premises discharges



into one cesspool, two loads per property are removed at regular intervals during the year.

Although additional main sewerage facilities were provided during the year in the Parish of Dibden, enabling the service to be discontinued at a further 175 premises, new building in non-drainage areas resulted in 198 new applications being received for the service. At the end of the year there was a nett increase of 23, bringing the number of properties receiving this service up to 2,710 as against 2,687 at the end of 1954. The cost of the service amounted to £6,311 - an increase of £300 over 1954.

Reference was made in last year's report to the difficulty in maintaining a direct labour method, and economic and other factors, of cleansing cesspools at Council Housing Estates. The Council, after careful consideration of all the circumstances involved, agreed to negotiate a suitable contract with the Cleansing Services (Southern Counties) Limited, for a comparable service. The contractors agreed to carry out this service at a cost of 18/- per load of 1,000 gallons, to include all costs incurred in providing and maintaining facilities for disposal. The cost of this service for the year amounted to £1,188 - equivalent to £12.8 per property.

#### MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

The number of licensed sites remained the same as last year - 14. Individual caravan licences were reduced to 26 - 12 less than last year. Two caravan licences which were not renewed had been used temporarily whilst permanent houses were built.

Although there has been a reduction in the number of individual caravans licensed for permanent occupation, caravans occupied permanently on licensed and unlicensed sites remain substantially the same as last year - approximately 200 families being resident.

There was the usual seasonal influx of caravaners and campers in the Forest under permits issued by the Forestry Commission. Permits are issued subject to compliance with the Commission byelaws and inspection by Forest Keepers.

It was found necessary to take proceedings before the Magistrates against the operators of two licensed sites for non-compliance with the conditions of their licences. A fine and costs were imposed in each case.

### SWIMMING POOLS.

As in previous years, the Swimming Pool at the Girl Guide Headquarters, Foxlease, Lyndhurst, was again in use during the summer months.

The Pool is an outdoor static type, of concrete construction, having a capacity of approximately 45,000 gallons, and is filled from the Southampton Corporation Water Mains.

An Agreement between the Association and the County Education Authority continued and approximately 788 children (592 in 1954) from Bartley Secondary Modern School used the Pool in May, June and July.

45 Samples were taken for bacteriological and chemical examination. The standard generally was satisfactory, having regard to the control being dependent upon the "fill and empty" system and hand chlorination. The Staff at Foxlease were again most helpful in carrying out the advice given on water change, chlorination dosage, cleansing and other relevant matters.

There were no other swimming pools in the District open to the Public.

### HOUSING.

The number of applicants on the Council's Housing List at the end of the year showed a reduction of 218, from 911 at the end of 1954 to 693. The corresponding figures for 1950 to 1954 were - 1,050, 1,200, 1,200, 1,085 and 911 respectively. During the year, 98 tenants gave up their tenancies of Council houses and 117 applications were cancelled.

The reason for terminating tenancies and cancelling applications is not known in every case, but the Housing Officer informs me that from information available to him, it would appear to be as a result of a high proportion purchasing houses of their own. The reduction of 392 in the list of applicants in the past two years from 1,085 to 693, bearing in mind the Council having demolished 119 temporary huts (51 in 1954 and 68 in the current year) at Stoney Cross and rehoused the majority of the families, and also those displaced families from Unfit Houses and other unsatisfactory housing conditions, together with the progressive increase in houses built by private enterprise, would lead one to suppose that the change in policy towards private building is now exerting some influence in reducing the demand for Council Houses.



As referred to in last year's report, and as required by the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954, the Council submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for approval their proposals for dealing in one way or another with the houses in the district which appear to be unfit for human habitation and liable to demolition. The proposal provides for dealing with 312 houses by way of Demolition or Closing Orders within five years of the date of commencement of the Act, the Council undertaking to rehouse the displaced families requiring alternative accommodation as a result of such action. Detailed information of action taken during the year for dealing with houses coming within the category of being unfit for human habitation and not capable of being made fit at a reasonable cost is contained in Table IV.

TABLE I.

Number of houses completed during the year by  
the Council and Private Enterprise.

| Parish.       | Erected by Council |      | Erected by Private Enterprise. |      |
|---------------|--------------------|------|--------------------------------|------|
|               | 1955               | 1954 | 1955                           | 1954 |
| Dibden.       | 58                 | 72   | 70                             | 21   |
| Eling.        | 48                 | 20   | 169                            | 153  |
| Beaulieu.     | -                  | -    | 1                              | -    |
| Boldre.       | -                  | -    | 15                             | 14   |
| Bramshaw.     | -                  | -    | 2                              | 5    |
| Brockenhurst. | -                  | 1    | 6                              | 4    |
| Copythorne.   | -                  | -    | 30                             | 12   |
| East Boldre.  | -                  | -    | 3                              | 4    |
| Exbury.       | -                  | -    | 1                              | -    |
| Fawley.       | -                  | -    | 53                             | 43   |
| Lyndhurst.    | -                  | 32   | 11                             | 8    |
| Marchwood.    | -                  | -    | 12                             | 10   |
| Minstead.     | -                  | -    | 1                              | 3    |
| Netley Marsh. | -                  | -    | 21                             | 12   |
| Sway.         | -                  | 20   | 11                             | 14   |
| TOTALS.       | 106                | 145  | 406                            | 303  |



TABLE II.

Number of houses built by the Council and Private Enterprise, population and number of applicants on Council's Housing List for years 1950-1955.

| Year. | Number of applicants on Council's Housing List | Houses erected by |                    | Total | Population of District |
|-------|--|-------------------|--------------------|-------|------------------------|
|       |  | Council           | Private Enterprise |       |                        |
| 1950  | 1,050  | 162               | 32                 | 194   | 44,200                 |
| 1951  | 1,200  | 174               | 38                 | 212   | 44,900                 |
| 1952  | 1,200  | 231               | 70                 | 301   | 45,090                 |
| 1953  | 1,085  | 167               | 176                | 343   | 45,480                 |
| 1954  | 911  | 145               | 303                | 448   | 45,960                 |
| 1955  | 693  | 106               | 406                | 512   | 46,840                 |

TABLE III.

Particulars of Houses owned by the District Council.

|                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Beaulieu .....     | 56.           |
| Boldre .....       | 60.           |
| Brookenhurst.....  | 118.          |
| Copythorne .....   | 30.           |
| Dibden .....       | 345.          |
| East Boldre .....  | 22.           |
| Eling .....        | 597.          |
| Fawley .....       | 222.          |
| Lyndhurst .....    | 77.           |
| Marchwood .....    | 45.           |
| Minstead .....     | 5.            |
| Netley Marsh ..... | 18.           |
| Sway .....         | 81.           |
|                    | <u>1,676.</u> |

TABLE IV.

- (1) The total number of properties which the Council propose should be dealt with during the next succeeding five years..... 312.

TABLE IV (Continued).

(2) Unfit Houses:

Although Ministerial approval has not yet been received, implementation of the Council's Unfit Houses Programme resulted in the following action being taken:-

INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES DEMOLISHED OR CLOSED DURING 1955:-

|  | <u>Number of<br/>Houses.</u> | <u>Number of<br/>persons<br/>displaced.</u> |
|--|------------------------------|---|
| <u>(1) Housing Act, 1936.</u>  |                              |   |
| (a) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Sec. 11) .....                       | 9                            | 8   |
| (b) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Sec. 11 and still in force ..... | 3                            | 13  |
| <u>(2) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.</u>                                |                              |   |
| (a) Closed as a result of Closing Orders under Sections 10(1) and 11(2) .....                    | 4                            | 13  |

REPAIRS IN THE YEAR 1955.

|   | <u>Number of Houses.</u> |
|---|--------------------------|
| (3) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during 1955 as a result of INFORMAL ACTION by the Local Authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts ..... | 57.                      |
| (4) Public Health Acts - action after service of FORMAL NOTICE. Houses in which defects were remedied.  |                          |
| (a) by Owners .....   | 1.                       |

NUMBER OF HOUSES DEALT WITH (INCLUDING CLOSING ORDERS) SINCE 1946:-

63.

Made up as follows:-

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Demolition Orders made ..... | 28. |
| Closing Orders made .....    | 5.  |
| Voluntary demolitions .....  | 14. |

Undertakings:-

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| (1) Premises will not be used .....        | 14.        |
| (2) Works will be executed to render fit.. | <u>2.</u>  |
|  | <u>63.</u> |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Number of houses demolished (formally and voluntarily) ..... | 33. |
| Number remaining to be demolished .....                      | 9.  |

MISCELLANEOUS:

Number of persons rehoused by the Council as a  
result of action under Housing Acts since 1946 ..... 162.

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR:

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

Number of applications for a Certificate of Disrepair:-

- (1) Granted ..... 2.
- (2) Refused ..... Nil.

In one case, after issue of the Certificate, the Owner made application, in accordance with Section 26 of the above Act, for revocation of the Certificate, on the grounds that such work as requires to be executed in order that the Dwelling-house shall fulfil both the conditions justifying an increase of rent, had been carried out. Upon inspection this was in fact confirmed, and the Certificate was accordingly revoked.

OVERCROWDING:

During the year ten cases of overcrowding were dealt with. Of these, eight cases were abated by the re-housing of families in Council houses, and the remaining two families concerned found their own re-accommodation.

FAMILIES IN HUTTED ACCOMMODATION:

The Council have continued their policy of closing down these encampments used for temporary housing purposes, and a further 68 huts were made redundant and closed during the year, the families requiring alternative accommodation being rehoused by the Council.

Of the original 348 families in the encampments, the number has now been reduced to 75. There now remain 21 at Stoney Cross Aerodrome and 54 at Setley Plain, Brockenhurst.

Periodical visits were again made throughout the year and attention given to the Camps and their occupants.

GENERALLY:

15 Applications for Council houses were referred to me for investigation on medical and social grounds and recommendations made accordingly.



VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Four premises (2 Council houses and 2 private houses) were treated for flea infestations.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The effluents from fourteen sewage disposal works discharging into streams were sampled by the Rivers Board. Of the 30 samples taken, 19 were found to be satisfactory, 9 unsatisfactory and 2 most unsatisfactory.

SCHOOLS.

There are 30 Schools in the District under the control of the Education Authority, and a number of private boarding and day schools. There is also a Residential School for backward children (by reason of chronic illness) between the ages of 7 and 11, under the control of the Middlesex Education Authority.

The new Grammar School at Totton was opened in April. Work was also completed on the building of additional classrooms at the Hythe School and of the conversion of the conservancy system to water carriage and connecting the drains to the public sewer.

At Totton, Brockenhurst, Lyndhurst, Hythe, Beaulieu, 2 of the 3 schools at Fawley, Exbury and South Baddesley, waterborne sanitation is provided.

Sanitary accommodation and hand-washing facilities in a number of schools remain far below the standard laid down in the Regulations. All schools are provided with a Mains water supply.

School meals are provided in all schools and in many are eaten in the Classrooms. Milk supplied to the schools is either tuberculin tested or pasteurised.

It was not found necessary to close any school by reason of infectious disease.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Regular Inspections of food shops, food vehicles, etc., have been carried out during the year and a total of 545 visits were made.

There are 410 food premises in the District as follows:-

|                                 |            |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Canteens .....                  | 4          |
| Butcher's shops .....           | 27         |
| Grocer's shops .....            | 85         |
| Greengrocer's shops .....       | 27         |
| Baker's (bread and cakes) ..... | 10         |
| Confectioners .....             | 13         |
| Dairies .....                   | 15         |
| General Stores .....            | 54         |
| Hotels .....                    | 38         |
| Cafes .....                     | 41         |
| Public Houses .....             | 65         |
| Fish Shops (wet) .....          | 9          |
| Fish and Chip shops .....       | 9          |
| Sugar (wholesale) .....         | 1          |
| Clubs .....                     | <u>12</u>  |
|                                 | <u>410</u> |

67 Informal notices in respect of contraventions of the Act were served.

The following remedial work was completed at the end of the year.

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| New impervious floor covering .....                     | 5.  |
| Defective floors repaired or renewed .....              | 3.  |
| Dirty walls & ceilings cleansed and redecorated .....   | 28. |
| Defective walls repaired .....                          | 6.  |
| Hot water supplies provided .....                       | 4.  |
| Additional sanitary accommodation provided .....        | 2.  |
| Improved drainage and sanitary accommodation .....      | 3.  |
| Additional improved washing facilities provided .....   | 9.  |
| Structural improvements inc. lighting & ventilation ... | 12. |
| Additional refrigerator capacity .....                  | 5.  |
| Provision of refrigerated glass showcases .....         | 2.  |
| Miscellaneous .....                                     | 15. |

Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938:

21 Premises are registered for the manufacture and preparation of sausages, sausage rolls, pork pies, pressed, pickled and cooked meats. 18 are registered for the manufacture of sausages and pressing and pickling of meats, one for the preservation of hams, one for manufacture and preparation of sausages, sausage rolls, pork pies and pressed meats, and one for the preparation of brawn. 58 Inspections were made and no statutory action was found necessary.

Clean Food Byelaws under Section 15, Food & Drugs Act, 1938:

It was not found necessary to take any formal action under the above Byelaws. As in previous years, your Inspectors have given this aspect of their work much of their time. Advice and instruction on the important need for hygienic care and handling of food is undertaken during routine inspections of food and food premises.

Bakehouses:

58 Inspections were made to bakehouses.

Ice Cream:

182 Inspections were made to premises in the District at which ice cream is manufactured or sold. 10 Applications for registration were approved and at the end of the year there were 142 premises registered for the sale of ice cream, an increase of 11 over last year.

One establishment is registered for manufacture and sale. 148 Samples of ice cream and 15 samples of ice lollies were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination with the following results:-

|                                      | <u>Ice Cream.</u> | <u>Lollies.</u> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Grade I (very satisfactory) .....    | 146               | 15              |
| Grade II (satisfactory) .....        | 2                 | -               |
| Grade III (unsatisfactory) .....     | -                 | -               |
| Grade IV (very unsatisfactory) ..... | -                 | -               |

The 100% satisfactory results obtained for the first time last year have been maintained. The only manufacturer in your District continued to give satisfaction and of the 84 samples taken at various stages of production all were very satisfactory - Grade I.



Ice Cream and Ice Lolly Samples:

Results of bacteriological examinations - 1949/55.

| Year. | Number of Registered Premises. | Number of Samples. | Satisfactory % | Unsatisfactory % |
|-------|--------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1949  | 53                             | 117                | 70             | 30               |
| 1950  | 78                             | 185                | 87             | 13               |
| 1951  | 102                            | 136                | 87             | 13               |
| 1952  | 108                            | 213                | 90             | 10               |
| 1953  | 122                            | 239                | 98             | 2                |
| 1954  | 131                            | 183                | 100            | -                |
| 1955  | 142                            | 163                | 100            | -                |

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTIONS.

The following foods from shops and food vehicles were found to be unfit for human consumption:-

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| 746½ lbs. Imported Beef .....                 | Bone taint.           |
| 40 lbs. Imported Beef .....                   | Tuberculosis.         |
| 3 x 11 lb. tins Cooked Shoulder Pork .....    | Decomposition.        |
| 29 lbs. Tinned Cooked Ham .....               | Decomposition.        |
| 64 lbs. Corned Beef .....                     | Decomposition.        |
| 2 tins Meat .....                             | Decomposition.        |
| 56 lbs. Tinned meat products .....            | Decomposition.        |
| 1 tin Braised Hearts .....                    | Decomposition.        |
| 68 lbs. Bacon .....                           | Decomposition.        |
| 28 lbs. Cheese .....                          | Contaminated by rats. |
| 2 Stone Haddock .....                         | Decomposition.        |
| 4 tins Fruit .....                            | Decomposition.        |
| 1 tin Jam .....                               | Decomposition.        |
| 29 tins Soup .....                            | Decomposition.        |
| 46 tins Fish .....                            | Decomposition.        |
| 1 tin Peas .....                              | Decomposition.        |
| 475 tins Milk Products .....                  | Decomposition.        |
| 164 jars Meat and Fish Pastes .....           | Decomposition.        |
| 60 Jars & tins miscellaneous foodstuffs ..... | Decomposition.        |
| 3 Jars mixed pickle .....                     | Affected with mould.  |
| 55 Bottles sauce .....                        | Affected with mould.  |
| 26 Packets Salt .....                         | Contaminated by mice. |
| 16 Packets Gravy Powder .....                 | Contaminated by mice. |
| 58 Packets Chocolate Cup .....                | Contaminated by mice. |

All condemned foodstuffs suitable for animal feeding, other than that required to be returned to the wholesaler, were collected and disposed of for that purpose at Public Institutions. Foodstuffs not suitable for animal feeding were burned or buried.

Slaughterhouses:

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food approved, with effect from the 30th December, 1955, the resolution passed by the Wessex Slaughterhouses Board (of which the District Council is a constituent member) whereby the Board,

having provided three slaughterhouses at Southampton and Funtley, resolved that no fresh licences to keep premises as a slaughterhouse shall be granted under Section 57, Food and Drugs Act 1938, and as from 30th December 1955, all such licences then in force shall cease to have effect and shall not be renewable.

The licenced slaughterhouses in the District were therefore closed as from the beforementioned date.

Food Adulteration:

The Food Adulteration Sections of the Food and Drugs Act 1938 are administered by the County Council and details of the number of samples and of commodities taken in the District during the year have been kindly supplied by the Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures, as follows:-

| Article.                        | Number taken. |                 |
|---------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
|                                 | Genuine.      | Unsatisfactory. |
| Butter and other fats .....     | 6             | -               |
| Drugs .....                     | 5             | 1               |
| Milk .....                      | 122           | -               |
| Sausage, Meat & Fish Products.. | 17            | -               |
| Spirits .....                   | 11            | 1               |
| Other Foods .....               | 20            | -               |
| TOTALS.                         | 181           | 2               |

The 122 samples of milk contained an average of 3.95% Milk Fat and 8.86% Non-fatty Solids.

Unsatisfactory Samples:

- (1) An informal sample of Zinc, Starch and Boracic Powder was very deficient in Boric Acid and slightly deficient in Zinc Oxide - a follow-up sample taken officially proved to be satisfactory.
- (2) A sample of Gin was certified to be a mixture of 98% of Gin of minimum legal strength of 35 degrees under proof with 2% of excess water.



MILK AND DAIRIES.

Details of registrations and licences are set out hereunder:

1. Registration:

- (a) Milk Distributors ..... 24.  
 (b) Dairy Premises (other than Dairy Farms). 20.

2. Licences granted under:

- (a) The Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949.  
     (i) Dealers ..... 16.  
     (ii) Supplementary ..... 6.  
     (iii) Pasteuriser's ..... 1.  
 (b) The Milk (Special Designation)(Raw Milk) Regulations.  
     (i) Dealers ..... 13.  
     (ii) Supplementary ..... 6.

3. Administration:

Number of inspections to milk distributors  
 and dairy premises and Pasteuring Plant..... 97.

4. Sampling:

A total of 181 samples of milk were taken and submitted for biochemical bacteriological and biological examination, with the following results:-

| Designation. | Number of Samples | Methylene Blue Test. |        | Phosphatase Test. |        | Guinea Pig Test. |      |                  |      |
|--------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|------------------|------|------------------|------|
|              |                   | Sat.                 | Unsat. | Sat.              | Unsat. | Tuberculosis.    |      | Brucella Abortus |      |
|              |                   |                      |        |                   |        | Pos.             | Neg. | Pos.             | Neg. |
| Past.        | 124               | 124                  | -      | 124               | -      | -                | -    | -                | -    |
| T.T.         | 28                | 25                   | 3 x    | -                 | -      | -                | 28   | 4                | 24   |
| U/G.         | 29                | 26                   | 3 x    | -                 | -      | -                | 29   | 2                | 27   |
| TOTALS.      | 181               | 175                  | 6 x    | 124               | -      | -                | 57   | 6                | 51   |

x = tests void. "Past." = Pasteurised. "T.T." = Tuberculin Tested.  
 "U/G" = Ungraded.

Producers were informed of the isolation of Brucella abortus in the six samples referred to and appropriate advice given. The Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was also notified and a clinical examination of the herds involved was carried out.



No action was necessary under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Tarmacadam Plant - Emission of Dust:

The plant was satisfactorily maintained and no complaints were received .

Smoke Abatement:

148 Smoke observations were made of industrial undertakings. There were no emissions in which statutory action was considered necessary.

The emission of smoke from the wood waste plant referred to in previous reports has been effectively reduced since modifications have been carried out.

Petroleum Refinery - Fawley:

The close liaison with Doctor Mahler, the Ministry's Inspector, has been maintained and observations submitted to him periodically. He, in turn, has kept me fully conversant with the Refinery processes and the means employed for preventing smell emission, and minimising atmospheric pollution generally. It would appear all that can be done is being done in preventing smell emission, and minimising atmospheric pollution.

FACTORIES.

| Premises.                              | Number<br>in<br>Register | Number of   |                    |                          |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
|  |                          | Inspections | Written<br>Notices | Occupiers<br>Prosecuted. |
| Factories with<br>mechanical power.    | 141                      | 100         | 7                  | -                        |
| Factories without<br>mechanical power. | 26                       | 2           | -                  | -                        |
| TOTALS.                                | 167                      | 102         | 7                  | -                        |

Cases in which defects were found.

| Particulars.                     | Number of Defects. |                |                                  |                                  | Defects<br>entailing<br>prosecu-<br>tion. |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
|                                  | Found              | Reme-<br>died. | Referred<br>to H.M.<br>Inspector | Referred<br>by H.M.<br>Inspector |   |
| Want of Cleanliness.             | 1                  | 1              | -                                | -                                | -   |
| Overcrowding.                    | -                  | -              | -                                | -                                | -   |
| Unreasonable temperature.        | -                  | -              | -                                | -                                | -   |
| Inadequate ventilation.          | 1                  | -              | 1                                | -                                | -   |
| Ineffective drainage of floor    | -                  | -              | -                                | -                                | -   |
| <u>SANITARY CONVENIENCES.</u>    |                    |                |                                  |                                  |   |
| Insufficient.                    | 3                  | 2              | -                                | -                                | -   |
| Unsuitable or defective.         | 14                 | 7              | -                                | 5                                | -   |
| Not separate for sexes.          | 1                  | 1              | -                                | -                                | -   |
| Lack of wholesome water supply   | -                  | -              | -                                | -                                | -   |
| No intervening ventilated space. | 1                  | 1              | -                                | -                                | -   |
| Other offences.                  | 6                  | 6              | -                                | -                                | -   |
| TOTALS.                          | 27                 | 18             | 1                                | 5                                | -   |

34 Outworkers were employed in the District during the year.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act., 1951:

There were no business undertakings in the District coming within the provisions of the Act.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948/51.

Section 47:

Three cases were referred to the Department during the year, two were removed voluntarily to Old People's Homes and one, on an Order made under the Act, to a Hospital.

Case No. 1.

An old lady aged 75, a widow living alone, was considered not to be a case for removal under the Act, and was referred to the Welfare Officer. She was eventually admitted, voluntarily, to the Old People's Home, Romsey.



Case No. 2.

On 24th November under an Order made under this Section, an old lady aged 79 was removed to the Lymington Hospital for treatment and later transferred to a private Old People's Home at Sandy Down, Boldre.

Case No. 3.

A man aged 86, living alone and physically incapacitated, was considered a case coming within the Act. The relatives were found and looked after him for a while. After a few months he was voluntarily removed to the Old People's Home, Ashurst.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949 and THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS (THRESHING AND DISMANTLING OF RICKS) REGULATIONS 1950.

The above Acts and Regulations are carried out under the direction of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and in carrying out the duties imposed upon the Local Authority, a staff of two - one Rodent Officer and one Operator, are kept fully employed.

Destruction of rats and/or mice on private premises is indirectly free, the cost being borne 50% by the General Rate Fund and 50% by way of Grant from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Business and agricultural premises are dealt with on a Contract or "ad hoc" service at a rate of 7/- per hour.

With the introduction of the Contract Service in the early part of 1954, it has been found that premises under Contract are generally free from either rat or mouse infestation, and many appreciative remarks, particularly from farmers, have been received.

Warfarin has again been the poison of choice, making it possible for those employed to make more inspections and to undertake the agricultural destruction service without employing additional staff.

All Council owned property, including Refuse Disposal Sites, Sewage Disposal Works, etc., have been periodically inspected and kept free from infestation generally.

The Hampshire Workable Area Committee No. 5, under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, held several meetings during the year and again have proved most helpful for the efficient administration of the duties of rodent control.

Details of work:

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Number of yearly contracts .....        | 48.        |
| Income from contracts .....             | £365.7.0d. |
| Number of complaints received .....     | 309.       |
| Number of infestations found .....      | 668.       |
| Number of infestations dealt with ..... | 977.       |

Number of Visits made for survey work:

|                                    |      |
|------------------------------------|------|
| (a) Dwelling houses .....          | 644. |
| (b) Business premises .....        | 190. |
| (c) Agricultural premises .....    | 201. |
| (d) Local Authority premises ..... | 14.  |

Number of Visits made for disinfection:

|                                    |        |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| (a) Dwelling houses .....          | 1,932. |
| (b) Business premises .....        | 570.   |
| (c) Agricultural premises .....    | 603.   |
| (d) Local Authority premises ..... | 42.    |

Number of bodies picked up:

|            |      |
|------------|------|
| Rats ..... | 704. |
| Mice ..... | 165. |



SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

| Nature of Inspection.  | Number made. |
|--|--------------|
| Milk and Dairies .....   | 97           |
| Water Supply .....   | 242          |
| Cesspool Cleansing .....   | 111          |
| Public Conveniences .....  | 17           |
| Nuisances .....  | 1,803        |
| Infectious Diseases .....  | 536          |
| Rooms Disinfected .....  | 41           |
| Housing .....  | 907          |
| Food and Drugs .....   | 272          |
| Ice Cream Premises .....   | 176          |
| Inspection of Food .....   | 63           |
| Factories .....  | 119          |
| Refuse Collection and Disposal .....                                 | 261          |
| Verminous Premises .....   | 43           |
| Rooms Disinfested .....  | 29           |
| National Assistance Act .....  | 11           |
| Moveable Dwellings and Camp Sites .....                              | 121          |
| Smoke Abatement .....  | 148          |
| Smell and Noise Observations .....                                   | 251          |
| Schools .....  | 5            |
| Swimming Pools .....   | 15           |
| Rodent Control .....   | 4,196        |
| Meetings and Interviews .....  | 315          |
| Miscellaneous .....  | 606          |
| <u>Samples:</u>  |              |
| Water .....  | 78           |
| Milk .....   | 181          |
| Ice Cream .....  | 148          |
| Ice Lollies .....  | 16           |
| Swimming Bath Water .....  | 45           |
| <u>Specimens:</u>  |              |
| In connection with the investi-<br>gation of infectious diseases ... | 564          |
| TOTALS.  | 11,417.      |

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK AND IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT.

Notices:

|                                  |      |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Preliminary Notices served ..... | 163. |
| Statutory Notices served .....   | 3.   |

(b) Sanitary Work:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Rooms disinfected after infectious disease ..... | 40. |
| Verminous premises disinfested .....             | 4.  |
| Ditches and watercourses cleansed .....          | 18. |
| Insanitary accumulations removed .....           | 15. |
| Choked drains cleared and cleansed .....         | 36. |
| Drains repaired .....                            | 29. |
| Water closets repaired and replaced .....        | 5.  |
| Infestations of insect pests eradicated .....    | 9.  |
| Keeping of animals .....                         | 4.  |
| Defective cesspits .....                         | 34. |
| Miscellaneous .....                              | 26. |

(c) Sanitary Improvements:

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Connections to Main Sewers (other than Council<br>and new houses) ..... | 79. |
| Conversions to water closets .....                                      | 10. |
| New drains laid .....   | 23. |
| Cesspit and Septic tank systems installed .....                         | 6.  |
| Sinks provided .....  | 14. |
| Properties redrained and connected to sewers .....                      | 33. |
| Washing facilities provided .....                                       | 8.  |

(d) General Repairs:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Roofs .....                                    | 31. |
| Chimneys .....                                 | 19. |
| Eaves, Gutters and Downpipes .....             | 20. |
| Walls .....                                    | 45. |
| Windows and Doors .....                        | 22. |
| Walls and ceilings repaired and cleansed ..... | 70. |
| Staircases .....                               | 4.  |
| Floors repaired or relaid .....                | 21. |
| Firegrates and kitchen ranges .....            | 10. |
| Yard pavings .....                             | 5.  |



THE PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER  
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

| Parish       | Estimated mid-year population | Scarlet Fever | Tuberculosis |    | Poliomylitis |    | Ophthalmia Neonatorum | Erysipelas | Measles | Whooping Cough | Dysentery | Puerperal Pyrexia | Food Poisoning | Acute Pneumonia | Para-typoid Fever | Totals |
|--------------|-------------------------------|---------------|--------------|----|--------------|----|-----------------------|------------|---------|----------------|-----------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------|
|              |                               |               | R            | NR | P            | NP |                       |            |         |                |           |                   |                |                 |                   |        |
| Beaulieu     | 1,237                         | -             | -            | -  | -            | -  | -                     | -          | 14      | -              | -         | -                 | -              | -               | -                 | 14     |
| Boldre       | 2,258                         | -             | -            | 1  | -            | -  | 1                     | -          | 4       | 1              | 26        | -                 | 1              | -               | -                 | 34     |
| Bramshaw     | 652                           | -             | -            | -  | -            | -  | -                     | -          | 14      | 15             | -         | 1                 | -              | 1               | -                 | 31     |
| Brookenhurst | 2,445                         | -             | 2            | 1  | -            | -  | 1                     | -          | 15      | 3              | -         | -                 | 13             | -               | -                 | 35     |
| Copythorne   | 2,534                         | -             | -            | 1  | -            | -  | 1                     | -          | 16      | 9              | -         | 1                 | -              | 3               | -                 | 31     |
| Denny Lodge  | 610                           | -             | -            | -  | -            | -  | -                     | -          | 3       | -              | -         | -                 | -              | -               | -                 | 3      |
| Dibden       | 4,544                         | 2             | 7            | 1  | 1            | 1  | -                     | -          | 42      | 4              | 8         | 2                 | -              | 10              | 1                 | 79     |
| East Boldre  | 1,014                         | 2             | -            | -  | 1            | -  | -                     | -          | 12      | -              | -         | -                 | 1              | 1               | -                 | 17     |
| Eling        | 15,461                        | 1             | 14           | 2  | -            | -  | -                     | -          | 402     | 66             | 2         | 5                 | 8              | 9               | -                 | 509    |
| Exbury       | 298                           | -             | -            | -  | -            | -  | -                     | -          | -       | -              | -         | -                 | -              | -               | -                 | -      |
| Fawley       | 5,494                         | 1             | 10           | 2  | 1            | -  | -                     | -          | 128     | 2              | 11        | -                 | 1              | 4               | -                 | 160    |
| Lyndhurst    | 2,645                         | -             | 1            | -  | -            | 2  | -                     | -          | 48      | 1              | -         | 1                 | -              | -               | 1                 | 54     |
| Marchwood    | 1,770                         | -             | 2            | -  | -            | -  | -                     | -          | 9       | -              | 6         | -                 | -              | 1               | -                 | 18     |
| Minstead     | 1,338                         | -             | 1            | -  | -            | -  | -                     | -          | 28      | -              | -         | 1                 | -              | -               | -                 | 30     |
| Netley Marsh | 2,338                         | -             | 3            | -  | -            | 1  | -                     | -          | 40      | 2              | -         | 2                 | -              | -               | -                 | 48     |
| Rhinefield   | 147                           | -             | -            | -  | -            | -  | -                     | -          | -       | -              | -         | -                 | -              | -               | -                 | -      |
| Sway         | 2,055                         | -             | -            | -  | -            | -  | -                     | -          | -       | 1              | -         | -                 | -              | -               | -                 | 1      |
| Totals       | 46,840                        | 6             | 40           | 8  | 3            | 4  | 3                     | -          | 775     | 104            | 53        | 13                | 24             | 29              | 2                 | 1,064  |

TABLE - Notifiable Cases (other than T.B.) notified during the year.

| Disease.                 | Total Cases notified. | Cases admitted to Hospital. | Deaths. |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Scarlet Fever.           | 6                     | -                           | -       |
| Poliomyelitis Paralytic. | 3                     | 2                           | 1       |
| Poliomyelitis Non.Para.  | 4                     | 2                           | -       |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum.   | 3                     | -                           | -       |
| Measles.                 | 775                   | 11                          | -       |
| Whooping Cough.          | 104                   | 3                           | 1       |
| Dysentery.               | 53                    | 1                           | -       |
| Puerperal Pyrexia.       | 13                    | -                           | -       |
| Food Poisoning.          | 24                    | 1                           | -       |
| Pneumonia.               | 29                    | 2                           | 9       |
| Paratyphoid.             | 2                     | -                           | -       |
| TOTALS.                  | 1,016                 | 22                          | 11      |

CANCER.

The number of deaths attributed to Cancer was 84 - 46 males and 38 females, of which 23 (27%) - 17 males and 6 females - were cancer of the lung and bronchus. The deaths from this cause in all sites are 14 more than last year and the death rate for the year is 1.79 per 1,000 of the population. While this represents a small increase over 1954, it is below the average for the previous five years. For comparison, the numbers of deaths and rates per 1,000 of the population in the District since 1949 are as follows:-

| Year. | Deaths. | Death Rate per 1,000 population. |
|-------|---------|----------------------------------|
| 1949  | 81      | 1.95                             |
| 1950  | 96      | 2.16                             |
| 1951  | 113     | 2.50                             |
| 1952  | 65      | 1.44                             |
| 1953  | 90      | 1.97                             |
| 1954  | 70      | 1.56                             |
| 1955  | 84      | 1.79                             |



DIPHTHERIA

For the ninth successive year there were no notifications of this disease, nor were any deaths registered as due to this cause.

Immunisation:

There has been a significant increase over 1954 in the number of primary treatments of children under 1 year of age - 359 (61%) as against 263 (44%) in 1954.

In my previous report I expressed an opinion that it might well be that where propaganda fails, the introduction of a combined scheme against this disease and whooping cough would bring about greater success towards achieving the desired level of 75% of children in this age group being immunised.

The scheme, as previously mentioned, only came into operation in May and I think it can be said that the satisfactory progress made is due in the main to the use of the Combined vaccine.

There has also been a satisfactory increase in the number of primary treatments of children of all age groups - 620 as against 551 in 1954 - and as compared with 1952 and 1953 when there were significant falls below 1954 of 45 and 42 respectively.

The number of children in the District within the age groups under 5 years and 5 to 14 years is estimated to be 3,906 and 6,429 respectively. The number of immunised children under 5 years of age is therefore estimated to be 2,044, and 5 to 14 years - 5,043.

The Clinics at schools were continued and 741 children were given booster doses. The high level of booster treatment is being maintained and can be considered most satisfactory. I am, once again, grateful to Doctor Oona M. Walker for her most valuable assistance in giving the treatment and the Head Teachers for their unhesitant co-operation and help, which is a vital contribution to the success of the Clinics.

Number of children in the area of the Local Authority on 31st December, 1955 who have completed a course of immunisation against diphtheria and/or whooping cough at any time between 1st January 1941 and 31st December 1955:-

|   | Under 1<br>1955. |       |                  | 1 - 4<br>1951 - 1954 |       |                  | 5 - 9<br>1946 - 1950 |       |                  | 10 - 14<br>1941 - 1945 |       |                  | Under 15<br>TOTAL. |       |                  |
|---|------------------|-------|------------------|----------------------|-------|------------------|----------------------|-------|------------------|------------------------|-------|------------------|--------------------|-------|------------------|
|   | Diph.            | Comb. | Whoop.<br>Cough. | Diph.                | Comb. | Whoop.<br>Cough. | Diph.                | Comb. | Whoop.<br>Cough. | Diph.                  | Comb. | Whoop.<br>Cough. | Diph.              | Comb. | Whoop.<br>Cough. |
| Age on 31.12.1955.<br>(born in year).   |                  |       |                  |                      |       |                  |                      |       |                  |                        |       |                  |                    |       |                  |
| (a) Number of<br>children who have<br>completed course<br>(primary or booster)<br>in 1951 - 1955. | 7                | 56    | -                | 1165                 | 816   | 7                | 2170                 | 118   | 4                | 2746                   | 9     | -                | 6088               | 999   | 11               |
| (b) Number of<br>children who have<br>completed course<br>primary or booster)<br>in 1941 - 1950.  | -                | -     | -                | -                    | -     | -                | 1240                 | 67    | 1                | 1139                   | 3     | -                | 2379               | 70    | 1                |

Booster Injections:-

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Treatments given at Surgeries and Child Welfare Centres ..... | 242.        |
| Treatments given at School Clinics .....                      | 741.        |
|   | <u>983.</u> |

Primary Injections:-

|                                     |      |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| Treatments given during 1955 .....  | 620. |
| Completed under 1 year of age ..... | 359. |



### FOOD POISONING

Twenty-four cases were notified. Of these, 15 were due to an outbreak at a Boarding establishment of a Grammar School where 30 boys are accommodated.

The Causal organism was identified as *S. typhi murium*. The remains of a 7 lb. tin of jam, from which jam was used for the tart forming part of the suspected meal, was found to be positive for *S. typhi murium*. It is reasonable to suppose that the jam tart was probably the incriminating food. The remaining nine cases were sporadic and confined to members of single families. In eight cases the causal organism was identified as *S. typhi murium* and the remaining one *S. Newport*. Due to delay in seeking medical attention, it was not possible to trace the vehicle of infection.

### POLIOMYELITIS.

Seven cases, 3 paralytic and 4 non-paralytic, were notified. Four cases were admitted to hospital. Of these seven cases, the first was notified rather early on 30th January - a man aged 31. He was a severe paralytic case and eventually died. The second case was notified on 8th June - a baby  $3\frac{1}{2}$  months old, also a paralytic case, who has been left with a slight residual paralysis of both legs, which is responding to treatment. The other five cases occurred in September - all completely recovered. The cases were widely distributed and no common factor was identified.

### PNEUMONIA.

Twenty-nine cases were notified (10 in 1954) and there were nine deaths (11 in 1954) from this cause.

### WHOOPING COUGH.

A total of 104 cases were notified. There has been a progressive decline since 1950 in notifications of this disease as will be seen from the Table below. Whereas last year most cases occurred in the third quarter, this year they occurred in the first quarter, which accounted for 61, and there was a fairly steady level notified in the second, third and fourth quarters - 15, 10 and 18 respectively. As for age distribution, the pattern followed similar lines as last year, 8% being under 1 year of age, 47% in children of pre-school age and 43% of school age. As is usual, females were more commonly affected than males. There was one death from this cause.

A scheme for combined immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough was commenced on the 9th May and at the end of the year 407 children had received combined treatment and 10 had received whooping cough immunisation alone. Statistics regarding age groups are included under "Diphtheria". Stocks of the vaccine are kept in the Department and issued to medical practitioners on request.

The following Table gives the number of cases and the attack rate per 1,000 of the population over the past five years:-

| Year. | Number of cases notified. | Attack Rate. |
|-------|---------------------------|--------------|
| 1951. | 230                       | 5.12         |
| 1952. | 193                       | 4.28         |
| 1953. | 180                       | 4.17         |
| 1954. | 108                       | 2.32         |
| 1955. | 104                       | 2.15         |

MEASLES.

It is well recognised that the incidence of Measles rises in alternate years to fall in the intervening years, and this has again been the pattern during 1955. The high number of cases notified (775) while appreciably lower than the complementary year 1953 (1,213), is the highest since 1945 - when 883 cases were notified.

The expected biennial epidemic began in January and in the first quarter 39 cases were notified; the momentum then increased steadily in the second quarter - 176 cases - and reached its peak at the end of the third quarter - 511 cases; there was then a rapid decline in the last quarter - 49 cases being notified.

In 1953 the epidemic reached its peak in January and February, when 789 cases were notified, and subsided at the end of April, whereas this year the fewest cases occurred in these months and the peak was not reached until the August.

97% of the cases notified were under 10 years of age and 43% under 5 years of age, 2.9% of all notifications were of children under one year of age.



The following table gives the number of cases and the Attack Rate per 1,000 of the population over the past five years:-

| Year. | Number of cases notified | Attack Rate |
|-------|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1951. | 612                      | 13.63       |
| 1952. | 190                      | 4.21        |
| 1953. | 1,213                    | 26.67       |
| 1954. | 6                        | 0.13        |
| 1955. | 775                      | 16.50       |

There were no deaths from this cause.

SCARLET FEVER.

Six cases were notified during the year (35 cases in 1954). The infection was mild and all cases were nursed at home.

DYSENTERY.

Fifty-three cases - 42 males and 11 females - of Bacillary dysentery of the S. sonnei type were notified (5 cases in 1954). Two school outbreaks accounted for 45 of the cases.

The first outbreak, involving 26 boys, took place at a residential school for delicate boys from 7-11 years of age. The school accommodates 95 boys, with a resident teaching and supervisory staff. There was some considerable delay in notification and the outbreak had become well established, there being 18 clinical cases, when investigations were commenced. It was decided, therefore, to attempt an assessment of the number of symptomless carriers.

This course was agreed to and specimens were obtained from all boys and the staff. While the staff were found to be negative, 8 of the boys were positive. As the excretion was fairly heavy in most cases, it was considered advisable to isolate them. Other epidemiological action, and agreement that cases and carriers ought not to be allowed to rejoin the community until three successive negative specimens had been obtained, quelled the outbreak.

The second outbreak occurred at a private day school attended by 38 children between 4 and 10 years of age. Similar epidemiological action was taken as in the first outbreak. This outbreak involved 21 children.

The remaining six cases were sporadic, and not associated with either of the outbreaks.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Fifty-nine cases were added to the Register, 48 primary notifications and 11 cases moving into the District as transfers from other areas. Of the 48 primary notifications, 40 were respiratory.

There were four deaths - as in 1954. Thirty-one cases were admitted to hospital, of whom 16 were notified during the year.

The primary notifications show a significant rise - there being 12 more than in 1954.

The following table shows the number of cases on the Register at the end of the year:-

|  | Pulmonary |     | Non-pulmonary. |    | TOTALS |
|--|-----------|-----|----------------|----|--------|
|  | M.        | F.  | M.             | F. |        |
| Number on Register as at 31st December 1955. | 238       | 167 | 44             | 40 | 489    |
| Number on Register as at 31st December 1954. | 217       | 137 | 42             | 34 | 430    |

New Cases - Age Groups:

| Age Group.     | Pulmonary. |    | Non-pulmonary. |    |
|----------------|------------|----|----------------|----|
|                | M.         | F. | M.             | F. |
| Under 5 years. | -          | -  | -              | -  |
| 5 - 14 years.  | -          | 1  | 1              | 1  |
| 15 - 24 years. | 3          | 3  | 1              | 1  |
| 25 - 44 years. | 8          | 11 | 1              | 1  |
| 45 - 64 years. | 7          | 4  | -              | 2  |
| 65 and over.   | 1          | 2  | -              | -  |
| TOTALS.        | 19         | 21 | 3              | 5  |



Comparability Table of the number and rate per 1,000 of the Population  
of New Cases and Deaths from Tuberculosis for the years 1950-1955.

| Year and Population. | New Cases. |           | Deaths. | New Cases Rate per 1,000 population | Death Rate per 1,000 population. |
|----------------------|------------|-----------|---------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                      | Pulm.      | Non-pulm. |         |                                     |                                  |
| 1950-44,200          | 34         | 13        | 12      | 1.1                                 | 0.3                              |
| 1951-44,900          | 40         | 7         | 7       | 1.0                                 | 0.1                              |
| 1952-45,090          | 22         | 2         | 6       | 0.5                                 | 0.1                              |
| 1953-45,480          | 50         | 10        | 6       | 1.3                                 | 0.1                              |
| 1954-45,960          | 30         | 6         | 4       | 0.78                                | 0.08                             |
| 1955-46,840          | 40         | 8         | 4       | 1.2                                 | 0.08                             |

B.C.G. Vaccination:

The Chest Physician of the area carries out this work. B.C.G. vaccination is offered, and usually accepted, for children born into a family where either parent is affected with tuberculosis.

Home Conditions:

Visits were again made to families having a case(s) of pulmonary tuberculosis in relation to environmental and social conditions and a close liaison with the Area Chest Physician is maintained.

After Care in Tuberculosis:

The Totton and District T.B. After Care Committee, formed four years ago, continues and again much valuable help was rendered to cases in need.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The population continues to increase, having risen by an estimated 880 to 46,840.

The Birth Rate shows a slight decline, being 16.4 as compared with 17.7 in 1954, but higher than the national average by 1.4 per 1,000 of the population.

The Infant Mortality Rate of 18.2 (14 deaths) was a little higher than 1954 - 13.4 (11 deaths) - but below the national average of 24.9.

The number of deaths was higher - 479 as against 1954 when there were 439. The Death Rate (10.1), however, was again well below the national rate of 11.7 per 1,000 of the resident population.

Of the total deaths, 395 or 82% (78% in 1954) occurred in persons aged 65 and over, of whom 237 or 49% (48% in 1954) were aged 75 or more.

The greatest age at death registered was 99, and within the age group 90-95 there were 24, or 5% of the total deaths.

The number of deaths in persons aged 65 and over as per 1,000 of the population was 8.4 (7.4 in 1954) as compared with the rate for all deaths of 10.1 (9.5 in 1954). The average age at death, from all causes, was 70.6 years (69.4 in 1954).

The incidence of infectious disease as a whole was of a comparatively low level. There was an increase in the number of dysentery and food poisoning notifications, largely confined to small outbreaks in schools. The spread of infection of a dysentery outbreak in institutions such as schools is difficult to control.

Experience and laboratory investigation suggests that the cause and spread of dysentery is due mainly to clinical cases who have not had medical attention, the presence of symptomless excretors, and the highly infectious nature of the organisms which are capable of rapid transmission from person to person, demanding the exercise of the strictest preventive epidemiological precautions possible, and scrupulous personal and environmental hygiene.

For the ninth successive year, there were no notifications of diphtheria. The introduction of the Combined immunisation for diphtheria and whooping cough has been most successful and the level of primary and secondary treatment has been satisfactory. If the current year's increased rate is continued, then next year the desired target of 75% of children under 1 year of age being immunised will be achieved.

Notification of respiratory tuberculosis (40) was higher than 1954, when 30 cases were notified, but less than 1953 when 50 were notified. Deaths from this cause remained at the low level achieved in 1954.



Further progress has been made in dealing with unfit houses and the building of houses in the District has gone on at an accelerated rate, 512 being completed (406 by private enterprise and 106 by the Council) during the year - 64 more than 1954 - and the highest during the post-War period.

Whilst some progress has been made in alleviating the housing problem, the progressive industrial development taking place in the District requires a greater acceleration in the building of new houses.

The provision of main sewerage facilities in the District continues to progress and the First Stage Scheme under construction in the Parish of Fawley is due for completion in 1956.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. HABGOOD.

Medical Officer of Health.

